



Quota Club of Fort Lauderdale, Inc.
The Chatterbox – April to August 2021

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NEXT ZOOM MEETING
October 5 @ 6:30 p.m.



Jackie 8/13
Sue 8/22



Get well soon, Lea!

Lea's broken ankle is slowly healing, but she will be in the nursing home until September. Six Quotarians have committed to calling her, each on a specific day of the week. She's in pretty good spirits and appreciates our calls. No visits are allowed this week. Hopefully, they will be allowed soon. Her daughter, Ruth, is flying in today.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Submitted by Chair Verra Roth

August 10, 2021

The Scholarship Committee met on August 10 via Zoom to discuss the award amounts to be made to the six students being supported at this time. The Committee decided to award \$1,000 to each of the undergraduate students, and \$1,500 to the graduate student for this semester. The Committee will consider an additional award for the Spring semester when transcripts are submitted for the current term.

The Committee discussed the future direction for the Scholarship Committee and the consensus seems to be moving towards Community Service hours-based scholarships to additional high schools. The Scholarship Committee members agreed to support the current awardees throughout their degree programs and move towards Community Service hours-based awards as these students graduate.

Treasurer Carol Zeber has prepared letters to each of the students' colleges financial offices, with checks for the awards.

The total awards for the fall term amount to \$6,500. An additional \$5,000 to \$6,500 may be disbursed for the Winter/Spring Term, contingent on each awardee's progress and continued enrollment.

Thank you to Scholarship Committee Members Elizabeth Dittmar, Kim Mc Carey, Dorothy Seibert, and Carol Zeber for their time, effort, and thoughtful ideas in this annual Scholarship Award process. Thanks again to President Emily for her patience in receiving the results!

Letters from these students follow.



Scholarship Chair, Verra Roth

Carlye Hall

Rochester Institute of Technology



My college experience, especially during COVID, has been challenging since I have hearing loss in both ears and can't necessarily hear people with their masks on. This has affected me greatly, but nothing comes without its struggles and tomorrow is always a new day.

What I've learned during the pandemic it is important to have positive thinking during tough times. My goal for this year to stay positive and try to push thru challenging times.

Jonahya Daniel

Nova Southeastern University

I'm still continuing my studies at Nova Southeastern University.

I pursued my studies via Zoom for my first year, but now that I have been vaccinated, I am looking forward to going back in the classroom all year.

I was hired in late January for my first work-study job for the Diversity Student Council that lasted until late April and was accepted into the Honors College.



After I graduate, I plan on becoming an Information Technology Specialist. I am still pursuing my Bachelor's degree in Information Technology and a minor in Interdisciplinary Honors and Cybersecurity.



Taelor Balkissoon (and friend)
Florida State University

Hello Verra,

First, I wanted to thank you and the people at Quota for offering me this opportunity again this year! I am very grateful that you keep reaching out and I am happy to share this bond with Quota!

I have attached my unofficial transcripts as of June 25th, 2021 and because I am not yet enrolled in my fall 2021 classes I have provided a screenshot of the ones I plan to take. Just a reminder, I should be able to add myself to these classes on July 15th, 2021 so once I have enrolled myself, I will update you all with new information.

As for my college experience and goals, I have had both of them turned completely upside down due to COVID-19. I'm sure everyone has suffered at the hands of the pandemic but for me, the pandemic forced me to take all my classes, for my sophomore year, online and at home.

During this time my plan for working towards my career got a bit delayed. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, I wasn't able to volunteer at the hospital to further my experience in a hospital setting, which I needed for the certification I am trying to achieve to become a Child Life Specialist. Although I didn't get to volunteer at the hospital, I did work all year while being a full-time online student. I worked at Trader Joes for the majority of the year and just recently I switched to Whole Foods for a bigger company and more growth. Although it was hard, working everyday and coming home to do homework and classwork for five courses, I am glad I stuck through it. I showed myself what I could do even though the whole world, including myself, got stuck in a rut for a bit. Now, I am continuing to work everyday at Whole Foods and I am taking one extra class for the summer at an online university, American Public University, to get some of the extra classes I need for my certification that my school doesn't offer, out of the way. Now, I am back on track towards that certification while getting my Bachelor's in Family and Child Sciences, making the most out of my college education and my time!

Thank you again Quota for helping me achieve my goal and sticking with me through my college experiences! I have also attached a recent picture of myself for your convenience. Please reach out if you need anything more!

Thanks,

Taelor Balkissoon

Jada Strowbridge
University of Central Florida



Good afternoon Mrs. Roth,

I am very sorry for the delayed response. I am taking several classes this summer and I am still getting adjusted to the schedule. Attached to this email are the items that you have requested which is my Fall 2021 class schedule, a recent photo, and my transcripts. I have also attached my current schedule for this semester (Summer 2021).

My college experience this far has been unpredictable (due to COVID- 19) but I have made the most out of it. Through this past year I have prospered through the adjustments of online classes and staying in my room everyday. I have made it through and I am proud of myself that I did not give up and continued to take classes. Since this year, I have learned many things that I could do inside for fun to keep myself occupied.

My goals for this and semester and the upcoming ones remains similar to my previous objectives. I would like to increase my GPA to at least a 3.7 (currently it is a 3.5), remain involved in co- curricular activities, and lastly I would like to start preparing myself for Doctorate of Physical Therapy School. Thank you for all of the support so far in my journey!

Jada Strowbridge

**Imani Hackshaw
Carlos Albizu University**



Thank you so much for contacting me and considering me for another scholarship opportunity. I am still pursuing my graduate degree at Carlos Albizu University. I will be beginning my practicum next fall.

This semester is a bit different than my previous semesters. I will be working full time (with no pay) and taking only one course. I am not sure if this still allows me to qualify. It is a requirement that we obtain 375 hours of hands-on training as a part of our course work before we can complete our degree.

I look forward to hearing from you. I hope all is well with you and all of the lovely members of Quota Fort Lauderdale.

Kind regards,
Imani Hackshaw, Graduate Clinician

**Sabrina Pierre
University of South Florida**



It's so nice to hear from you & the Quota International Committee again. I am currently taking a summer course to achieve my Associate Degree by the end of the summer. During this semester, it's been hiatus but good overall! I'm on the right path & near almost finished completing my degree.

I am very delighted & happy that you have decided for me to receive another 2021 award. In my next email, I will send you an essay explaining what I have been up to & my educational plans alongside an updated picture of myself.

Also, I have not done so yet, but I'm going to send you my schedule for the fall semester at the University of South Florida. I appreciate everything you & Quota have done for me as a student & I will do everything you'd like for me to do. Happy to hear from you & I will speak to you soon.

Sabrina Pierre